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may live to see his enthusiasm for the promotion of international friendship fill the heart of every sovereign in the world.

The latest attempt of the king to promote kind feelings between England and her rivals was a visit made by him with Queen Alexandra early in February to Berlin. They met with a hospitable reception by the emperor and empress and by the citizens of all parties. The city government of Berlin, with the chief burgomaster's warm approval, provided elaborate decorations for the occasion. Berlin tried to do as much for the king as London had done for the emperor a year before. There was an imposing procession which is said to have created greater public interest than any other recent event, not excepting the marriage of the German Crown Prince. The king was cheered wherever he appeared, whether in procession or riding about privately in an automobile. A banquet given in his honor in the imperial palace gave him an opportunity to express his good feeling toward his host and the German people. Emperor William taking himself, and taking well, the character of peacemaker, as in his Guildhall speech of last year, said, when he introduced the king, that "the German people greeted the ruler of the mighty British world-empire with the respect due him and perceived in this visit a new pledge of peaceful and friendly development in the relations between the two countries." King Edward, in response to these fraternal words, said : "With regard to the aim and desired result of my visit, your Majesty has given eloquent expression to my own feelings, and I can therefore only repeat that our coming is for the purpose not only of recalling before the world the close ties of relationship between our two houses, but also aims at strengthening the friendly relations between our countries, and thus at the preservation of a general peace towards which all my efforts are directed."

Again, after his return home, referring to his visit, in his speech from the throne in opening Parliament, the king said : "I was much impressed and gratified at the warmth of the public reception given to the queen and myself by all classes of the community. It afforded me great pleasure to meet the emperor of Germany and the empress again, and I feel confident that the expressions of cordial welcome with which we were greeted in Berlin will tend to strengthen those amiable feelings between the two countries that are essential to their mutual welfare and the maintenance of peace."

What does this visit mean? The exchange of such friendly sentiments as these between the king and the emperor, and the fact that King Edward with Queen Alexandra went to Berlin for the avowed purpose of promoting friendliness between their nations, when peace was threatened by war-scare mongers demanding the

adoption of big army and navy schemes, together with the fact of the publication of Emperor William's interview in which he had scolded the British public for their unbelief in his sincerity, and put himself in an unfortunate position, will go far to make the two nations act and feel towards each other as they ought. The newspapers in both countries should now complete the good work of the two sovereigns and, instead of inciting the people to war, as some of them have been doing, seek in all possible ways to promote a lasting peace.

### Peace and the Churches.\*

This is the title of a Souvenir Volume of the visit to England of representatives of the German Christian Churches, May 26 to June 3, 1908, including the visit to Scotland, June 3d to 7th. The text is printed in both English and German, and the volume is handsomely and profusely illustrated with portraits of the 131 German guests and the English committee, and pictures of places visited.

Mr. Joseph Allen Baker, M. P., on whose initiative the visit of the German ministers was arranged, with the efficient coöperation of Baron de Neufville, of Frankfort, Germany, has prepared this souvenir volume. It was done at the request of many friends of peace who felt that an event so unique in history as the bringing together of all the Christian Churches of two great countries, irrespective of sect or creed, in the interests of international peace and amity, should have a permanent record.

In a private letter Mr. Baker says truly that "this visit was remarkable because for the first time in German experience Lutherans, Catholics and Nonconformists united in any movement, and for the first time in the world's history the representatives of the Christian Church in one country, irrespective of sect or denomination, visited their confrères in another with the definite object of promoting peace and goodwill."

This statement seems hardly credible when one remembers the millions of Christians throughout the world, and what a position of possible light and leading on this subject the Church holds. But, alas! it is only too true. It is encouraging, however, to know that the church as a whole is beginning to feel more than ever before the responsibility of its position and its profession, as numerous individual Christian men have long felt it. Some fourteen or fifteen years ago a peace memorial of the churches was gotten up by the late Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Richmond, Va., signed by the official representatives of most of the leading Christian denominations, translated into all the leading languages, and copies of it sent

\* PEACE AND THE CHURCHES, London and New York : Cassell & Company, 6 shillings net.

to the heads of all the important governments. It did its work. Then, ten years ago, memorials in favor of peace and arbitration were sent by various churches and church organizations to the first Hague Conference. Two years ago a joint peace memorial of the churches of the United States, Great Britain and the Continent of Europe was sent to the second Hague Conference. So this visit of the German preachers to Great Britain, while unique in the way spoken of above, was only the fuller unfolding of the Christian line of the peace movement which has been going on a long time.

Mr. Baker and his friends, while carrying out this German clergymen's visit, conceived the idea of a great world conference of the churches of Christendom in the interests of international peace. Such a conference they believe to be not only desirable, but imperative. Of this Mr. Baker writes: "Surely the time is now fully come when the professed followers of the Prince of Peace, the religious leaders of every land, should unite to form themselves into a Universal League of Peace, and to make impossible for the future the crime and wickedness of war." There is no doubt, as he further says, that the early holding of such a universal religious peace congress would greatly facilitate the labors of the statesmen who will be sent to the third Hague Conference. "It has occurred to me," he writes, "that if such is carried out the suggestion might well be made by the united churches of the United States of America."

This is a noble conception, and our American churches, now nearly two hundred thousand in number, are in a peculiarly favorable position to take it up and carry it out. We commend the subject most heartily to their thoughtful consideration. They could not honor Him whom they profess to love and serve in any other way more fully than by making such a united effort to deliver the world from one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of the evils with which it has from the dawn of history been afflicted and degraded.

### Editorial Notes.

**European Peace Day.** Many of the European Peace Societies continue to observe the 22d of February as general Peace Day, as well as the 18th of May. The observance of the former day, suggested by Felix Moscheles of London, began before the 18th of May became noted as the anniversary of the opening of the first Hague Conference. The plan of the observance of the 22d of February is to secure the adoption on that day of an identical resolution by the various peace societies touching some immediate phase of international relations. The resolution which Mr. Moscheles sent out this year, and which was adopted by sundry societies, was as follows:

"We solemnly protest against the perpetuation of the rule of force in these times of enlightenment, when peoples and governments are alike invoking the blessings of peace.

"We denounce as immoral the transferring of territory, by treaty, or otherwise, from one power to another, without previously having allowed the populations affected by such change full opportunity of freely expressing their wishes and giving their consent.

"We also believe that a fair and humane treatment of native tribes, on the confines of civilization, would gradually avert the necessity of waging border warfare or of embarking on punitive expeditions."

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Edwin D. Mead, a vice-president of the

**Edwin D. Mead** American Peace Society, and editor of the International Library Series of books published by Ginn & Company, spent ten days in February

on a trip in behalf of the peace cause in the West and South, visiting Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Nashville, Birmingham (Ala.), Atlanta and Washington. In Nashville he was the guest of the Board of Trade, and in Birmingham of the Commercial Club. In Cincinnati he addressed the Law School, of which President Taft was formerly the dean, the present dean being Prof. W. P. Rogers, one of the ablest and most earnest international workers in the West. In Nashville he addressed the students of Vanderbilt University, the Peabody College for Teachers, Fisk University and the High School, two thousand or more students altogether. He addressed the students of Atlanta University, and at Birmingham, on the Lincoln centennial day, he took part in a great Lincoln commemoration, which, held as it was in the very heart of the South and with ex-Confederates among the enthusiastic speakers, he found most impressive and hopeful. He found leading citizens at Birmingham, like Judge Weakley and Belton Gilreath, talking earnestly about an Alabama Branch of the American Peace Society, and the newspapers of the places which he visited show how warmly his message was everywhere received.

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The most appropriate thing to remember

**Washington Anniversary.** at the present time, in connection with the celebration of the birthday of George Washington, is the feeling which he had in regard to war, after having seen it in many of its phases. In his farewell address, in which his most mature opinions were expressed, he declared: "Overgrown military establishments are, under any form of government, inauspicious to liberty, and are to be regarded as particularly hostile to republican liberty." In July, 1785, he wrote to David Humphreys: "My first wish is to see this plague to mankind (war) banished from the earth, and the sons and daughters of this world employed in more pleasing